

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Kazakhstan
<b>Program Title:</b>	Strengthened Democratic Culture
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	115-0211
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$5,795,000 FSA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$584,000 FSA
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$5,621,000 FSA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2001
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2007

**Summary:** USAID's democracy efforts build stronger and more sustainable civic organizations, increase the availability of information on civic rights and domestic public issues, enhance opportunities for citizen participation in governance, and develop more effective, responsive, and accountable public institutions.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

**FY 2005 Program:** Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$325,000 FSA, \$272,000 FSA carryover). USAID will focus on increasing organizational capacity and improving long-term strategizing for both national and local-level political party organizations. Principal contractors/grantees: National Democratic Institute (NDI) (prime) and International Republican Institute (IRI) (prime).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$2,426,000 FSA, \$43,000 FSA carryover). USAID will build the institutional capacity of a local Association of Civil Society Support Centers (CSSCs), which provides institutional support to other non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The advocacy program will target professional associations, special interest groups, and democracy NGOs. The civic education program will focus on wider textbook distribution, teacher toolkits for extra-curricular activities, and project handover to the Government of Kazakhstan (GOK). USAID will expand the Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking Program to new teachers and emphasize project institutionalization. Principal contractors/ grantees: Counterpart (prime), International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (sub), NDI (prime), International Foundation for Election Systems (prime), and the Kazakh Reading Association (prime).

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$927,000 FSA, \$107,000 FSA carryover). USAID will provide media outlets with production grants and business management training, promote a supportive enabling environment, continue a regional program-sharing network for electronic media, and advocate for freedom of speech. Principal contractors/grantees: Internews Network (prime), International Center for Journalists (sub), Internews Kazakhstan (sub), and Adil Soz (sub).

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$2,117,000 FSA, \$162,000 FSA carryover). USAID's legal reform project will: build practical skills for law students through moot courts, mock trials, and Street Law; develop hands-on clinical experience and substantive trainings; incorporate a Legal Writing and Reasoning Course into university law curriculum; and promote the development of student bar associations. A follow-on judicial reform project will focus on judicial ethics and implementation of jury trials. USAID's new three-year human rights program will focus on organizational development of human rights NGOs, monitoring human rights, policy reform and advocacy, and dissemination of information on human rights issues. A new, three-year anti-trafficking in persons (TIP) program will work with local shelters, hotlines, and law enforcement personnel on victim protection and prevention through outreach programs. USAID will also support legislative reform to facilitate prosecution of traffickers. Principal contractors/grantees: Freedom House (prime), the American Bar Association/Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) (sub), and TBD (prime).

**FY 2006 Program:** Support Democratic Political Parties (\$650,000 FSA). Political party assistance will focus on developing more sustainable organizational structures in central party and local party affiliates leading up to the 2006 presidential elections. Principal contractors/grantees: NDI (prime) and IRI (prime).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$1,570,000 FSA). As USAID's civil society and civic advocacy programs come to an end in FY 2006, the emphasis of the program will shift to civic advocacy. USAID will continue, at a reduced level, institution-building of NGOs through direct funding to a local network of CSSCs. The civic education program will end this year with integration of the course into the curriculum. The Kazakh Reading Association Program will expand to new schools and focus on sustainability for project graduation in FY 2007. Principal contractors/grantees: Kazakh Reading Association (prime) and TBD (prime).

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$1,000,000 FSA). USAID will facilitate regular media training, with continued production grants and support to local advocacy efforts for freedom of speech. Principal contractors/grantees: Internews Network (prime), Adil Soz (prime), International Center for Journalists (sub), Internews Kazakhstan (sub).

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$2,401,000 FSA). The legal reform program will focus on program sustainability, continuing the legal reasoning and writing course, and delivering moot court, mock trial, and Street Law programs to rural schools. The second year of the judicial reform program will continue to work on judicial ethics and jury trials. Human rights support will target human rights defenders in three pilot oblasts with technical assistance for monitoring, outreach, networking, and advocacy on human rights issues. The second year of a three-year TIP program will work with local shelters, hotlines and law enforcement on victim protection and prevention through outreach programs. USAID will also support legislative reform to facilitate prosecution of traffickers. Principal contractors/grantees: Freedom House (prime), ABA/CEELI (sub), and TBD (prime).

**Performance and Results:** This was a turbulent year for democracy in Kazakhstan. The President vetoed a new restrictive media law, which USAID-supported local organizations had advocated against. USAID assisted a broad spectrum of political parties to make their own platforms more responsive to citizens, while Internews facilitated the production of candidate talk shows and debates, Public Service Announcements, and radio political advertisements. The elections themselves saw the most active issue-based campaigning to date and attracted more public attention than any previous post-independence election. New electoral legislation fell significantly short of international standards, and parliamentary elections were deemed to be even further from meeting international standards. A USAID-financed parallel vote tabulation by a local NGO showed definitively that there were instances of results manipulation after polling stations had submitted their protocols. A lack of progress on decentralization forced USAID to close its local government program. Civic education is on target for hand-over to the GOK by next year. These mixed results suggest that political will for democratic reform on the part of the Government remains lacking, but public pressure for such reforms is increasing and continues to push back on government restrictions. By program's end, there will be stronger and more sustainable civic organizations; increased availability of information on human rights and domestic public issues; greater opportunities for citizen participation in governance; and more effective, responsive, and accountable public institutions.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

**Kazakhstan**

115-0211 Strengthened Democratic Culture	<b>FSA</b>
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	12,851
Expenditures	6,530
Unliquidated	6,321
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	6,087
Expenditures	6,770
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>	
Obligations	18,938
Expenditures	13,300
Unliquidated	5,638
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	584
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	5,795
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>	
Obligations	6,379
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>	
Obligations	5,621
Future Obligations	6,210
Est. Total Cost	37,148